

CONFIDENTIAL

Assistant Director for Operations

27 April 1948

Assistant Director, Reports and Estimates

Survey of Foreign Documents Branch, OO

REFERENCE: Memorandum from Executive for A&M to the Asst. Director, OO,
dated 8 April 1948, Same Subject as Above.

1. Pursuant to the request contained in paragraph 2 of the 1st Indorsement to the referenced memorandum, this office has commented on the extract of the Administration and Management report in Enclosure #1.

2. With respect to the functional statement for the Foreign Documents Branch, this office prefers to withhold detailed comments pending completion of study and revision by the Office of Operations. It is recommended, however, that the functional statement include authority and provision for the Office of Operations to enter into contractual arrangements with outside agencies for purposes of increasing the volume of translation of foreign language documents, periodicals and press.

3. With the continued availability to CIA of current foreign language periodicals and press, there will arise a steady and increasing flow of requirements for their exploitation. ORE believes that every effort should be made to meet such requirements provided that they are based upon specific intelligence needs. It would appear that external arrangements could be made for the translation of unclassified material through an appropriate governmental channel in such manner as to conceal CIA's connection with the enterprise.

4. ORE further believes that OO and ORE could profit from joint consideration of requirements and planning for foreign document and periodical exploitation and would welcome such participation by the Office of Operations.

THEODORE BABBITT

Encl:

ORE Comments on Extracts from the A&M
Survey of Foreign Documents Branch, OO

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